

# Ballymena Beware – Yet Again!

Marilyn Hickey (plus daughter Sarah) returns for ‘healing’ services.

In the Belfast Telegraph of Saturday 27 September there was an advert that read –

Don't miss  
**Marilyn Hickey and Sarah Bowling**  
(mother and daughter ministry team)  
NOVEMBER  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm  
HEALING SERVICES

Back in September 1998 I included a short article in my ministry newsletter that was entitled ‘**Ballymena Beware: Marilyn Hickey is coming**’. The item can be viewed on the following link (and it read as below)

<http://www.takeheed.info/news-from-the-front-september-1998/>

## Ballymena Beware (Marilyn Hickey is coming)

Standard International Ministry (Maurice Wylie) announced in early June that following visits by Ulf Ekman and Jesse Duplantis (both ‘Word of Faith’ ‘health and wealth’ preachers) they would be hosting a visit by **Marilyn Hickey**. She is being billed as an ‘International Bible teacher.’ On page 36 of ‘Christianity in Crisis’ by Hank Hanegraaff we read this about Marilyn Hickey “**Marilyn Hickey....employs a broad range of tactics to induce followers into sending her money. Among her many ploys are anointed prayer cloths, ceremonial breastplates and ropes that can be used as points of contact. In one of her appeal letters Marilyn promises she will slip into a ceremonial breastplate ‘press your prayer request to [her] heart and place your requests on [her] shoulders’ – all for a suggested donation.**” On page 351 Hanegraaff quotes this instruction from Hickey “**What do you need? Start creating it. Start speaking about it. Start speaking it into being.....Speak to your checkbook. Say ‘You, checkbook, you. You’ve never been so prosperous since I owned you. You’re just jammed full of money.’**” Need I Say more?

In my next newsletter found on <http://www.takeheed.info/news-from-the-front-december-1998/> I also reported – “**As a ministry we undertook to phone many ministers and pastors in the area to alert them to the nature of the false message promoted and proclaimed by Marilyn Hickey.**”

This time their meetings are being hosted by ‘Living Rivers Church’ headed up by ‘pastors’ Paul and Karen Brady.

Additional information that further shows the unreliable nature of the 'ministry' of **Marilyn Hickey** can be found as follows –

<http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/laugh2.htm>

## Unholy Laughter

Dr. Cathy Burns

In the last issue we covered a phenomenon that is growing like wildfire in the churches around the world, which is called "holy" laughter. Other names for this spectacle are "**Toronto Blessing**," "a time of refreshing," "another Pentecost," and "laughing in the spirit." The person most responsible for this is **Rodney Howard-Browne**. **We saw how the phenomena of shaking, laughing, screaming, heat, incoherent babbling, etc., that take place at these meetings have a parallel in the occult.** In this issue we are going to list a number of individuals who have endorsed this new movement and see what they have to say about it.

There are literally thousands upon thousands of churches throughout the world that have been experiencing the laughing revival. (1) In fact, according to Charisma magazine, "an estimated 4,000 churches in England had been impacted and at least 7,000 churches in North America."(2) This, of course, doesn't take into account all the other nations where this phenomenon has erupted. Some of the biggest names in the church world have endorsed this movement. Many brag that this is a new move of God and that revival is breaking out. This, however, is not true.

**Who are some of these "big names" promoting and supporting this happening?  
Here are just some of these individuals.**

Rodney Howard-Browne (Rodney Howard-Browne Evangelistic Association)  
John Wimber (Vineyard Christian Fellowship/Vineyard Ministries International)  
Roger Forster (March for Jesus/Ichthus Fellowships)  
Gerald Coates (March for Jesus/Pioneer network)  
Billy Graham (Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)  
Pat Robertson ("700 Club")  
Guy Chevreau (Minister)  
Charles and Frances Hunter (Authors/Speakers/Healers)  
Bill Bright (Campus Crusade for Christ)  
David Mainse ("100 Huntley Street")  
Karl Strader (Carpenter's Home Church)

**Wallace and Marilyn Hickey (Marilyn Hickey Ministries)**

Richard Roberts (President of Oral Roberts University and son of Oral Roberts)  
Joyce Meyer (Speaker)  
Leanne Payne (Disciple of the late Agnes Sanford)  
Kenneth Hagin (RHEMA; Kenneth Hagin Ministries)  
Paul and Jan Crouch (Trinity Broadcasting Network)  
Ben Kinchlow (700 Club)  
Jill Austin (Master Potter Ministries)  
John White (Psychiatrist/Author)  
Randy Clark (St. Louis Vineyard)  
Leonard and Sandra LeSourd (Catherine Marshall Center)

John Arnott (Toronto Vineyard)  
Paul Cain (Kansas City Prophet; Latter Rain teacher)  
Marc Dupont (Toronto Vineyard)  
Kenneth Copeland (Kenneth Copeland Ministries)  
Richard Dortch (Former Jim Bakker associate)  
Dr. Patrick Dixon (Author)  
Hugo Anson (The Stable)  
John Adlington (Vine Christian Fellowship)  
Ron Atkinson (YWAM/Ichthus/The Stable)  
Wes Sutton (Vineyard Church Loughton)  
John and Eleanor Mumford (Southwest London Vineyard)  
Jim Wilkinson (Hollybush Christian Fellowship)  
Steve Chalke (Oasis Trust)  
David Pytches (Kingdom Power Trust & New Wine Convention/St. Andrews)  
Ewen Huffman (Carshalton Beeches Baptist)  
John Hosier (Church of Christ the King)  
Larry Tomczak (Writer)  
Benny Hinn (TV preacher/Healer)  
Oral Roberts (Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association)  
David Bryant (Concerts of Prayer, International)  
Jackie Buckingham (Jamie Buckingham's wife)  
John Sandford (Elijah House)  
James Ryle (Boulder Valley Vineyard; Board of Directors of Promise Keepers)  
Stephen Strang (Charisma magazine/New Man magazine)

<http://www.letusreason.org/Pent36.htm>

"The person universally acknowledged as the revival's 'father' and 'pacesetter' was William Branham. The sudden appearance of his miraculous healing campaigns in 1946 set off a spiritual explosion in the Pentecostal movement which was to move to Main Street, U.S.A., by the 1950s and give birth to the broader charismatic movement in the 1960s, which currently affects almost every denomination in the country... "Branham was welcomed by many Pentecostal churches and parachurch organizations such as the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship which was in its heyday during the 1950's...

Branham taught that the Word of God was given in three forms, the zodiac, the Egyptian pyramids, and the written scripture (Al Dager, Vengeance is Ours, Page 59). This denies the sufficiency of Scripture and Gods specific revelation to man by Moses and the Prophets. It also opens one up to other alternatives... **Marilyn Hickey promotes Branham saying "his influence continues today because of his teaching on prosperity and the power of the spoken Word".**

<http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/the2.htm>

## **Marilyn Hickey's Abuse of the Term "Anointing"**

"Marilyn Hickey has a great deal to answer for when she stands before the Lord. She has knowingly given God's people a false hope. She is responsible for all of the spiritual casualties which have occurred in the lives of those who faithfully followed her directions. I would not want to be in her shoes on that day".

## Morris "He Who Imparts The Anointing" Cerullo

"The transference of God's anointing will enable us to fulfil the prophecy... How is Morris going to accomplish this mystical transference? He will take the prayer requests he receives (hopefully with a goody sized donation) and; (1) personally pray over them, (2) place them in his hands, and (3) ask God to release a *double portion* of the anointing He has given me to be over the respondents lives. Then, if that is not enough, Morris is going to; (1) take a mantle and anoint it with oil, and (2) personally ask God to transfer His new anointing into the respondents life... Mr. Cerullo has no anointing to give anyone. A double portion of nothing is nothing, which is all that God's gullible will receive from him."

## The Manifestation of the "Anointing"

As a former full-time *charismaniac* minister I know from personal experience what I am about to share is a totally accurate. I have laid hands on close to 1,000 people and I have had large numbers of them fall before me. I too, have been *slain* many times by various teachers, prophets, evangelists, and apostles.

The high point of almost every charismatic service is the *personal* ministry time. This is when the congregants with various needs are called upon to come up to the front of the church and receive the need-meeting supernatural mystic power from the anointed speaker.

This anointing is transmitted by the laying on of hands from the speaker to the waiting, willing, congregant. How does the person (and observers) know that the *anointing* is being transmitted into the individual via the leader? The receiver will 99% of the time fall backwards into the arms of a designated "catcher." This phenomena is known popularly as being *slain in the spirit*.

## Concluding Remarks

There is widespread confusion within the charismatic movement regarding the "anointing." There is no one commonly accepted definition. There is no uniformity in understanding how one may obtain whatever the "anointing" is. There is even a wide chasm of disagreement about who is really anointed.

The reason for this massive confusion among the leaders is simply because they have departed from the simple teaching of the Bible on this miniscule issue. They have been building their concepts around what they have heard other ministers say and not looked to the Bible as their source of material. They have based their widely varying beliefs on personal subjective experiences and not the solid foundation of the Bible.

The manner in which they *transmit* their mystic power and the resulting manifestations in the bodies of those receiving these powers leads me to believe that whatever is transpiring is more akin to the world of the occult versus orthodox Christianity.

**In conclusion I do not believe any Christian today has God's power to bestow on another Christian, certainly not the people mentioned in this short booklet.**

On a video excerpt that I will shortly give a link to, **Marilyn Hickey** gives details of how both **she and her daughter SARAH** ‘encountered’ and were ‘smitten by’ the ‘**Holy Laughter**’/‘**Toronto Blessing**’ epidemic that was sweeping much of professing Christendom in 1994. The video excerpt is from a meeting, held in Amsterdam in December 1994, and further information of that ‘**laughing experience**’ that Marilyn Hickey refers to may possibly be gleaned from this section of an article on <http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/Laugh1.html>

The Hunters describe a typical **Rodney Howard-Browne** meeting during which the church's pastor and an internationally known ministry leader were affected:

"Pastor Karl Strader of the Carpenter's Home Church in Lakeland, Florida, started excitedly calling us and telling us about this most unusual sign and wonder which was occurring in his church. . . . He . . . said that he had spent six weeks on the floor of his church laughing. . . . **Marilyn Hickey** had been there and he said that **Marilyn** had spent the entire time on the floor laughing. Then he shared with us how Rodney had called **Marilyn** to the microphone and she just laughed and laughed and then fell under the power of God without saying anything! . . . We saw demonstrations of power with Rodney just pointing at people who would then fall under the power of God. We saw people trying to crawl away from the power, but they couldn't get up off the floor" (15).

(15) O Timothy, Cloud, citing ["Holy Laughter"], pp. 35, 38.

The video excerpt featuring both  
**Marilyn Hickey and her daughter Sarah**  
can now be viewed on

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgG7t5\\_Cv64](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgG7t5_Cv64)

Early in the video clip Marilyn Hickey speaks of the ‘**law of transference**’ in relation to ‘**healing**’ – this is a familiar expression in ‘**occultic/pagan**’ healing situations – it is quite possible that Namaan, the leper, coming from a pagan culture in Syria, was expecting something like this when we read in **2 Kings 5:11** “I (Namaan) **thought, he (Elisha) will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper**”. The ESV and the NASB both translate this last portion as “**and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper**”. Namaan was clearly expecting some ‘**transference**’ of divine healing power to cure him of his leprosy.

The ‘**occultic/pagan**’ connotations of this ‘**law of transference**’ are mentioned in the excellent book ‘**True to His Ways**’ by Ruth Davis (details of the book and how to purchase it can be obtained on <http://www.truetohisways.com/>) Interestingly the motivation to write this book was very much bound up with the author’s own unfortunate charismatic encounter with the so-called ‘**Toronto Blessing**’.

In the book we read the following –

Yoga exercises and meditation are often used to arouse kundalini. However there are other ways. One is **by contact** with an empowered yoga master. Kundalini/shakti can be aroused by a touch from a guru... It is this **transferability of kundalini by touch** that first caught my attention... SHAKTIPAT and SAMADHI... PAT is a Hindi word meaning to **“transfer”** or **“descend”**. A SHAKTIPAT is a touch... which **transfers** kundalini/shakti power from one person to another. Gurus give *shaktipats* to bless their disciples, often at meetings held for this purpose...

After receiving SHAKTIPAT a person sometimes falls on the floor and lies in a trance-like state called SAMADHI. This is a peak spiritual experience. During *Samadhi* practitioners receive supernatural peace and love which is apparently joyful and soul expanding; a very precious experience... *Samadhi* resembles the soaking prayer of charismatics... I was shocked and concerned when I learned about *shaktipat* and *Samadhi*... When I was a new Christian, TB ('Toronto Blessing') leaders would seat me in a chair and pray with one hand on my forehead and one on the back of my head exactly like yoga masters do. The purpose is the same: **to transmit spiritual power**. Often the result is also the same and the worshiper falls to the ground in the *samadhi-like-state* charismatics refer to as being “slain in the spirit”. (Interestingly, some charismatics – including leaders at the Toronto church – recently altered their practice to avoid touching for transferring the “Spirit”). (Cecil – sounds like they were just “waving their hands”)... **both kundalini yogis who seek “the power of the serpent” and charismatics who seek the “power of the Holy Spirit” believe they meet with God and are spiritually cleansed in trance states”** (pp 26-32)... **“The fact is that the charismatic practice of assembling people together to call down spiritual power is also common among Hindu practitioners, other mystics and even magicians”** (p 46)... **Unfortunately there is no avoiding the fact that charismatic practices are occult... charismatics make a point of “calling down the Spirit” failing to realize that to call for a spiritual presence to manifest in the natural realm is the heart of occult practice... So dear charismatic, do not fear leaving the occult. Rather fear remaining in it”** (pp 70-72).

Strong words and conclusions from someone who has researched this whole area in great detail in the light of her own disturbing and unsettling charismatic experience and encounter. Another helpful resource relevant to this whole subject is a book I reviewed some years ago called **'From Spiritual Powers to Liberating Grace'** by a former follower of the 'Word of Faith' Movement, **Torbjorn Swartling**. My review and a follow-up short item to that review can be viewed on <http://www.takeheed.info/book-review-spiritual-powers-to-liberating-grace/> and <http://www.takeheed.info/news-from-the-front-september-2001/>

I no longer have copies of this book for sale but I phoned the publishers and they have 5 copies left for sale. Should you wish to obtain a copy you can do so by contacting the publishers via their web site contact details on <http://www.tentmakerpublications.com/about-us/contact.html>

In closing, my prayer simply is that no one will be similarly affected or 'infected' through going to these **Marilyn Hickey** meetings – these are definitely **meetings to avoid**.